STRATFORD ON THE POTOMAC

ARMES

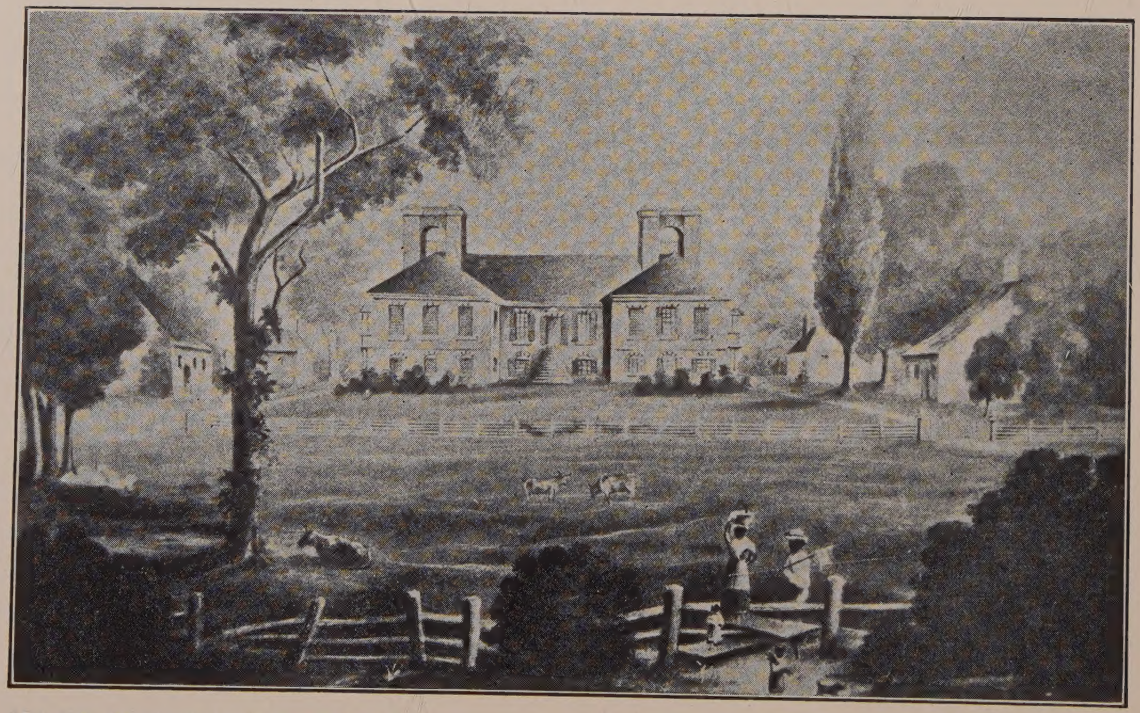
WILLIAM ALEXANDER JR. CHAPTER
UNITED DAUGHTERS
OF THE
CONFEDERACY

DEDICATED TO

MAUDE BLAKE MERCHANT OF VIRGINIA

PRESIDENT GENERAL OF THE UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY

In whose administration comes to pass the
200th Anniversary of the building of
Stratford Hall, the birthplace of
our beloved great commander
General Robert E. Lee



OLD STRATFORD HALL THE BIRTHPLACE
OF GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE IN VIRGINIA

STRATFORD ON THE POTOMAC

BY ETHEL ARMES

AND ADDRESS ON ROBERT E. LEE BY SIDNEY LANIER

MAPS AND LINE DRAWINGS BY
CATHERINE CLAIBORNE ARMES

PUBLISHERS
WILLIAM ALEXANDER JR. CHAPTER
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY
GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT
MCMXXVIII

CONTENTS

		Page
ROBERT E. LEE: *In Memoriam*	By SIDNEY LANIER	5
Part I	In which General Lee speaks of his birthplace	9
Part II	In which is told the story of Richard Lee the Emigrant and the building of Stratford Hall	15
Part III	In which the Fates weave threads of shadow and sunlight in the life of Lighthorse Harry Lee	26
Part IV	In which are given pictures of the Home House	31
TENTATIVE PROPOSITION:	In which a plan is drawn to make Stratford on the Potomac a shrine of pilgrimage for the Nation	38

The author is indebted to the New York Times
for permission to reprint her article
as a part of this record

Copyright, 1928, by William Alexander Jr. Chapter, U. D. C.
All rights reserved

Frontispiece given by Josephine Wheelwright Rust (Mrs. Harry Lee Rust, Sr.)

Photographs by Lewis Perry Woltz

ROBERT E. LEE

IN MEMORIAM

By Sidney Lanier

The following address written by Sidney Lanier and spoken by him at a meeting of the citizens of Macon, Georgia, held shortly after the death of General Lee, is here published for the first time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In the antique times it was a fair custom at the beginning of a feast to pour out generous libations of purple wine, calling at the same time upon the name of some strong god, so that the divinity might descend out of heaven and hover above the circling cup vouchsafing prosperity to the wit, dignity to the mirth and glory to the festivity. Sir, my heart throbbed quicker and certain unseen impulses stirred my blood when I heard you pronounce that name, first of all names, as if he were to be the tutelar god of this banquet.

Fortunate, fortunate, thrice fortunate that feast whose inaugural invocation is unto the mighty, matchless Spirit of Robert E. Lee!

For, Sir, he indeed is a greater than any antique deity. All the gods of Greece are dead; but Lee has only now begun to live. The gods of Greece at this moment have not a lover left in all the lands of all the world: but Lee, —ah, there is not a heart beating about this board, wherein he does not sit, shining with immortal radiance and encompassed with the purest loyalties that human hearts can offer. The gods of Greece were shadows; they were myths; no man ever saw them: but our god-like Lee, old comrades, have we not beheld with our own eyes the majesty of his incarnate manhood, glorious

amid the red pomps of battle, glorious amid the simple fashions of peace?

Sir, the last time that I saw with mortal eyes—for with spiritual eyes many, many times have I contemplated him since—the scene was so beautiful, the surroundings were so rare, nay, time and circumstance did so fitly frame him as it were, that I think the picture should not be lost. There was nothing melodramatic in the circumstances, nothing startling, nothing sensational—which was all the more particularly in accord with his character, for this was one of those grand, but modest, sweet souls that love simplicity and shrink from all that is loud and vulgar.

It was at fateful Petersburg on a glorious Sunday morning whilst the armies of Grant and Butler were investing our last stronghold there. It had been announced to those who happened to be stationed in the neighborhood of General Lee's headquarters that religious services would be conducted on that morning by Major General Pendleton of the artillery. At the appointed time I strolled over to Dunn's Hill where General Lee's tent was pitched and found General Pendleton ensconced under a magnificent tree, and a small party of soldiers with a few ladies from the dwellings near by, collected about him. In a few moments General Lee appeared with his camp chair and sat down. The services began. That terrible battery, Number Five, was firing very slowly, each report of the great gun making the otherwise profound silence still more profound. Even Hoke's line was quiet. I sat down on the grass and gazed with such reverence as I had never given to mortal man before, upon the grand face of General Lee.

He had been greatly fatigued by loss of sleep. As the services progressed and the immortal words of Christian doctrine came to our hearts and comforted us, sweet influences born of the liberal sunlight that lay warm upon the grass, of the waving leaves and trembling flowers, seemed to steal over the General's soul. Presently his

eyelids closed and he fell gently asleep. Not a muscle of him stirred, not a nerve of his grand countenance twitched, there was no drooping of the head nor bowing of the figure, and I could not have been sure that he really slept had I not observed that a venturesome fly crawled unheeded upon his brow. As he slumbered so, sitting erect with arms folded upon his chest in an attitude of majestic repose such as I never saw assumed by mortal man before: as the large and comfortable words fell from the preacher's lips; as the lazy cannon of the enemy anon hurled a screaming shell to within a few hundred yards of where we sat, as finally a bird flew into the tree overhead and sat and piped small blissful notes in unearthly contrast with the roar of the war engines; it seemed to me as if the present earth floated off through the sunlight and the antique earth returned out of the past and some majestic god sat on a hill sculptured in stone presiding over a terrible yet sublime contest of human passions.

Ah, Sir, it was not very long after that pleasant slumber that we heard he had passed into the pleasanter and sublimer slumber of death. So easily did he glide from one to the other that one might fancy he had prayed, in those beautiful words of Paul Haynes' *Ode to Sleep* . . . "Then woo me here etc.," and that his prayer had been granted.

So, O magnificent Spirit, we invoke thee now: descend out of heaven; thou hast presided over unimaginable feasts of death where the wine was blood and the wit was a death shriek, —preside now over the splendid hilarities of these old comrades who have fought together, who have toiled together and who would now rejoice together: as thou wert in life our Commander, still, still, over the river of death send thy voice to our hearts, still let us be inwardly thrilling to know that in life and after life and forever, thou art our own hero, our foremost one, our well-beloved General Lee.

WHEREAS: The souls of departing heroes are fitly accompanied to their last repose by the solemn aspirations of living peoples, grateful

for their lives and mournful for their deaths: and Whereas, General Robert Edward Lee, in the fullness of fruitful life, in the consummation of heroic patriotism, in the majesty of silent fortitude, in the glory of splendid manhood, in the security of an entire peoples' faithful and enthusiastic regard, is gone unto that brilliant reward which Almighty Providence will assign to a Christian soldier whose heart was as humble as his deeds were illustrious: Be it therefore

Resolved: That we, the assembled citizens of Macon, do with sincere devotion lend our common voice to those mournful utterances evoked by the death of Robert Lee not only from our countrymen but from all the manly spirits of our time: calling upon the world to respect the grief of a people who in one moment have lost a vigilant soldier, a humane victor, a beloved leader, a stately man, an admirable citizen, an undoubting Christian, a brilliant son of that Virginia which always teemed with illustrious progeny—and a lineal descendant of long and honored ancestry.

Resolved: THAT WE INVITE OUR COUNTRYMEN TO UNITE IN SOME ENDURING TESTIMONIAL TO THE STAINLESS LIFE AND GLORIOUS SERVICES OF OUR DEPARTED GENERAL AND THAT IN THE JUDGMENT OF THIS MEETING SUCH MONUMENT WOULD ASSUME ITS BEST PROPRIETY IN THE FORM OF A GREAT HALL OF FAME TO BE BUILT BY SUCH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS AS SHALL BE WITHIN THE COMPASS OF THE HUMBLEST CITIZEN WHO LOVED HIM AND WHO DESIRES THE GRATEFUL PRIVILEGE OF LAYING SOME TRIBUTE ON HIS TOMB.

Resolved: That we respectfully tender our sympathies to the family of the illustrious deceased, pointing them to the noble consolations which present themselves in the spectacle of a nation which earnestly shares their grief while it proudly extols their kinsman.

PART I. *In which General Lee speaks of his birthplace*

"THOUGH unseen for years every feature of the house is familiar to me," General Robert E. Lee said of Stratford Hall when a sketch of the stately old mansion painted by a young girl of Warsaw, Virginia, was sent to him in Lexington in the spring of 1866, "Your picture vividly recalls scenes of my earliest recollections and happiest days," he wrote to the artist, "I return my sincere thanks for the pleasure you have given me." A little while before, when in the field, in pauses of the long marches and during the interim of battle General Lee's mind had often turned towards Stratford. From Savannah, Georgia, November 22, 1861, he wrote to his daughters: "I am much pleased at your description of Stratford and your visit. It is endeared to me by many recollections, and it has been always a great desire of my life to be able to purchase it. Now that we have no other home, and the one we so loved has been so foully polluted, the desire is stronger with me than ever. The horsechestnut you mention in the garden was planted by my mother. I am sorry the vault is so dilapidated. You did not mention the spring, one of the objects of my earliest recollections . . ."

Again, two weeks later he wrote to his wife: "In the absence of a home I wish I could purchase Stratford. That is the only other place that I could go to, now accessible to us, that would inspire me with feelings of pleasure and

local love. You and the girls could remain there in quiet. It is a poor place but we could make enough cornbread and bacon for our support, and the girls could weave us clothes. I wonder if it is for sale and at how much. Ask Fitzhugh to try to find out when he gets to Fredericksburg."

Casting about for ways and means to provide clothing for the soldiers of the Confederacy General Lee thought of Stratford in its remote and isolated position, so inaccessible to the enemy, as a possible place for a domestic manufactory, and this very thought of home brought with it . . . sense of violets. From Coosawhatchie, South Carolina, December 29, 1861, he wrote to his son Fitzhugh's wife, his "Precious Chass", in whose courageous life and tragic death there is summed up the story entire of the women of the Confederacy: ". . . You will have to get out the old wheels and looms again, else I do not know where we poor Confederates will get clothes. I do not think there are manufactories sufficient in the Confederacy to supply the demand; and as the men are all engrossed by the war, the women will have to engage in the business. Fayetteville—or Stratford would be a fine place for a domestic manufactory. . . I send you some sweet violets, I hope they may retain their fragrance till you receive them. I have just gathered them for you. The sun has set and my eyes plead for relief for they have had no rest this holy day. But my heart with all its strength stretches towards you and those with you and hushes in silence its yearnings. God bless you, my daughter, your dear husband and son."

Stratford on the Potomac was the birthplace of Robert E. Lee, Commander in Chief of the Armies of the Confederacy. In reply to a letter from his friend and biographer, Rev. J. William Jones of Lexington, Va., inquiring into his family history, General Lee wrote, November 20, 1865: "I am a poor genealogist, and my family records have been destroyed or are beyond my reach . . . I am the youngest son of Henry Lee, of the Revolutionary War, who commanded Lee's Legion under General Greene in the Southern Department of the United States, and was born at Stratford on the Potomac, Westmoreland County, Virginia, the 19th of January, 1807.

"My mother was Anne Hill Carter, daughter of Mr. Charles Carter of Shirley on the James River. My father was twice married, first to Miss Lee, and then to Miss Carter . . . My father died in 1818, my mother in 1829. My grandfather was Henry Lee of Stafford County, Virginia; my great-grandfather, Henry Lee, son of Richard Lee who first came from England to America and from whom the Southern Lees are descended . . ."

The first four years of General Lee's life, were spent at Stratford. After the family moved to Alexandria, in 1811, it was at Stratford and at Shirley where his grandparents on the Carter side lived, that Robert spent his holidays and vacation months for the next fourteen years, until he went to West Point in 1825. Thru the fields, woods and swamps of Stratford on the Poto-

mac, he hunted deer, bear, fox; he shot wild ducks, partridges, geese; he fished rowed, sailed, went swimming, rode horseback, skated in winter—tramped thru old Westmoreland from dawn till dark. He came to have a love for the open which he never lost: "In the woods I feel sympathy with the trees and birds in whose company I always take delight, but experience no pleasure in a strange crowd," he wrote to his wife years later from St. Louis. Dr. Jones says that his recollections of his childhood home were always as vivid as they were tender and pleasant. He speaks of General Lee's fondness for hunting, how, in running the fox, he would often follow the hounds on foot all day and how this rugged outdoor life at Stratford "accounted for his well developed form and for that wonderful strength which was never known to fail him in all the fatigues and privations of his after life."

Stratford on the Potomac is in a lonely faraway part of Tidewater Virginia, some ninety miles below Mount Vernon, very near Wakefield, the birthplace of George Washington and but a few miles across country from the birthplaces of President James Madison and President James Monroe. That section of the Old Dominion, between the Potomac and the Rappahannock rivers, known as The Northern Neck, was settled by the Cavaliers during the reigns of Charles I and Charles II. "By reason of the worth, talents and patriotism which once adorned it," says Bishop Meade, "it was called the Athens of Virginia." Accessible only by water in the old days, or by the roughest of bridle paths and plantation roads it has been for years an isolated region. Today, however, it is within easy reach of the traveler, by means of the new State Road, the King's Highway, which leads directly from Washington, D. C., to Richmond, past those historic family seats of Arlington, Gunston Hall, Mount Vernon, and Kenmore and Chatham in old Fredericksburg, along the Rappahannock, by Marmion, to Wakefield—and eight miles further on to Stratford Hall.

To quote a description by General Lee given to Miss Emily V. Mason: "The approach to the house is on the south, along the side of a lawn several hundred acres in extent adorned with cedars, oaks, and forest poplars. On ascending a hill not far from the gate the traveler comes in full view of the mansion, when the road turns to the right and leads straight to a grove of sugar maples around which it sweeps to the house.

"The edifice is built in the form of an H and of bricks brought from England. The cross furnishes a saloon of thirty cubic feet and in the centre of each wing rises a cluster of chimneys which form the columns of two pavillions connected by a balustrade. The owner who, before the Revolution, was a member of the King's Council, lived here in great state and kept a band of musicians, to whose airs his daughters Matilda and Flora with their companions danced in the saloon or promenaded on the housetop."

The Stratford lands in Westmoreland County were acquired in the days

of the Powhatans by Richard Lee of Stratford-Langton, Essex, England, the first American ancestor of Robert E. Lee, a few years before grants of land of the nearby property were taken up by John Washington, first American ancestor of George Washington. The manor House, Stratford Hall, was not built however, until the year 1729-30, when Richard Lee's grandson, Thomas Lee, the first native born Governor of Virginia under the British Crown, established his home there.

No other homestead in colonial America has the historic significance of Stratford on the Potomac. Here in pre-Revolutionary days important political events were conceived and established, theories and ideals of patriotism translated into action; here, as E. C. Meade declares was the headquarters of fashion, genius and nobility of the Old Dominion. The old mansion is a history in itself, says Edmund Lee in *Lee of Virginia:* its rooms being the chapters; its storeys, volumes; its furniture, illustrations, and its inmates, the characters. Such a mansion is certainly an illustration of the customs, habits and modes of life of the period in which it was built and inhabited. Since Stratford was erected on the banks of the historic Potomac, American history has been made and prominent actors in that history were born under its roof.

ANNE CARTER LEE'S BEDROOM
IN WHICH ROBERT E. LEE WAS BORN
JANUARY 19, 1807

"At the time it was built the American colonies were few in number, weak in strength, hardly able to defend their homes from the marauding Indian . . . Westmoreland County was a narrow strip of inhabited land hugging the Atlantic as if afraid to loosen its hold on the mother country; the War of the Revolution came and passed—all these changes has Stratford witnessed. Yet it remains today solid and strong, a monument of the past age in which it was erected, and had it no other claim to distinction it might surely rank as one of America's historic mansions. But Stratford possesses greater claims than mere age. As the birthplace of two signers of the Declaration of Independence; of two others who represented their country at the courts of Europe during the earlier years of that struggle; and as the home of Lighthorse Harry Lee, it is hallowed by memories which no other mansion in America can share. . . There too was born Robert E. Lee—an event well worthy of being the last act in the great drama of which Stratford was the stage."

More than this—it is said that at least fifty of the men who counted Stratford home—were leading figures in local and national affairs; prominent in the naval and military history of colonial America and of the young United States, serving in the early Indian wars, in the Revolution, the war of 1812,

THE GREAT ENTRANCE HALL—MEDIAEVAL, SUPERB —LIKE THE CASTLE HALLS OF THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY

His first grant in Westmoreland County for one thousand acres south of the Potomac is dated October 18, 1650. He added to this several thousand more acres including the Stratford plantation lands, some of which he obtained from the Indians and some by royal grants patented and issued from time to time. When the Stratford lands were got in these early 1650's this period marked the peak of the Cavalier migration to the new world. The great exodus of noble families from England to the Colony of Virginia, which began with the execution of Charles I in 1649, slackened after 1660. In this decade there was an extraordinary increase of the white population in Tidewater Virginia.

The Cavalier families brought to this one small section of the Colony of Virginia the standards and traditions of the noble houses of the mother country; the culture, the manners, the love of learning and courage and the high idealism of knighthood days which gave to Virginia that substance and quality enabling her to take the leadership of young America in that far off forgotten time. These families, like the first Lees of Virginia, were in the beginning all staunch Royalists; the Washingtons, Madisons, Monroes, Pendletons, Randolphs, Masons, Cabells, Marshalls, Ludwells, Carys, Fitzhughs and others of their neighbors, friends and fellow colonists of Tidewater Virginia.

"These Cavalier families made the greatness of Virginia," says Fiske: "To them it is due that her history represents ideas and enshrines events men will always find interesting . . . Men who leave their country for reasons connected with conscience and principle, men who have consecrated themselves to a cause are picked men for ability and character. Such men are likely to exert upon any country an influence immeasurably greater than an equal number of men taken at random. It matters little what side is espoused: very few causes are wholly right or wholly wrong."

Richard Lee, the Emigrant, died at Cobbs Hall and was buried there. By his will he ordered his English estate, Stratford-Langton, sold and the money divided among his heirs so determined was he to pull up the very roots from England and transplant his entire family to Virginia. He left a veritable kingdom of lands and to each of his eight children princely estates: Cobbs Hall, Mount Pleasant, Ditchley, Lee Manor and the Stratford lands among them, all named after seats of the Lee family in England. His coat of arms, the heraldic bearings of the Shropshire Lees, reproduced in these pages is a replica of the one carved in wood on the front door of old Cobbs Hall. It bore the motto *Non incautus futuri*. Here was a tie to the mother country he never let go. The thought and dream of his family must have been often in his mind. A Lee fought at the battle of Hastings with William the Conqueror; a Lee went on crusade to the Holy Land with Richard Cœur de Lion. There were memories of 600 years' achievements of his English forefathers to cherish. Like a tapestry of the old world—as tangible as that—he bore it with him into the new to enrich and color his every sense, his every experience . . . and to be a bequest to his descendants.

Of his large family this record is concerned with his son Richard, the father of Thomas Lee, builder of Stratford Hall. This second Richard was a brilliant scholar. Educated at Oxford as were all of his brothers—for the Emigrant saw to that!—he wrote his notes in Greek, Latin and Hebrew. Many inducements were made his father to permit young Richard to remain in England and achieve high office there but the Emigrant would not have that. Therefore upon young Richard's return to Virginia and marriage to Letitia Corbin, he held important local posts in the colony and in the navy of that period until his death. Governor Spotswood said of him: "a gentleman of as fair a character as any in this country for his exact justice, honesty and unexceptional loyalty in all the stations wherein he has served in this government, he has behaved himself with great integrity and sufficiency." One of his employments as a Naval officer was that of "Receiver of Virginia dutys for the River Potomac". He inherited the plantation Mount Pleasant, a short distance from the Stratford lines—a large brick manor house enclosed by a brick wall. Here he founded his family. Among his sons born at Mount Pleasant was Henry Lee, grandfather of Lighthorse Harry Lee and great-grandfather of Robert E. Lee. And here, in 1690 was born Richard Lee's fourth son, Thomas Lee, known in Virginia history as President Lee.

Thomas Lee was not educated abroad as were his uncles and each of his brothers, nor was he left a large patrimony, merely a section of the 6,500 acres that originally made up the Stratford plantation. Says Edmund Lee of him, quoting from one of the old family records:

> "With none but a common Virginian education, yet having strong natural parts, long after he was a man he learned the languages without any assistance but his own genius and became a tolerable adept in Greek and Latin . . . by his Industry and Parts he acquired a considerable fortune; for being a younger Brother with many children his Paternal Estate was very small."

In 1716 Thomas Lee leased the estate Mount Pleasant from his brother the third Richard Lee to whom it had descended but who elected to remain in England. He mounted upward step by step from offices of trust and honor in his country to high office in the Colony. He added extensively to his property holdings and shipped vast quantities of tobacco from Stratford Landing to England. He became the most successful planter in the Northern Neck. In 1722 he married Hannah Ludwell, the daughter of Philip Ludwell, Member of the Virginia Council and Speaker of the House, and brought his bride to their old family manor house Mount Pleasant.

The Ludwells, like the Lees, belonged to an ancient noble family of distinction in the political and diplomatic life of the British Court. For several years after their marriage Thomas and Hannah Ludwell Lee lived at Mount Pleasant. When their son, Philip Ludwell Lee, was three years old a terrible catastrophe

occurred. The old manor house was set on fire in the dead of night by some convict servants who had been sentenced to be punished by Thomas Lee, then sitting as magistrate in the county. To quote *The Maryland Gazette,* February 4, 1729: "Last Wednesday night Colonel Thomas Lee's fine house in Virginia was burnt, his office, barns and outhouses, his plate, cash to the sum of ten thousand ℔s. papers and everything entirely lost. His lady and child were forced to be thrown out of a window and he himself barely escaped the flames. being much scorched. A white girl of about twelve years old (a servant) perished in the fire. It is said that Colonel Lee's loss is not less than fifty thousands pounds. . . . . "

When the news of this calamity reached London there was an immediate response from the British Government and from President Lee's friends and business associates in the East India Company and other mercantile bodies. The sum of three hundred pounds was sent to him by Queen Caroline, wife of George II, as a gift from her Privy Purse, with an autograph letter in appreciation of the loss sustained by her agent in the faithful discharge of duty and as an aid in the building of his new home.

SOUTH ENTRANCE—REAR OF THE HOUSE
LEADING TO THE FORECOURT, SCENE OF FASCINATING BITS OF
18TH CENTURY LIFE, EAST ENTRANCE NEAREST
THE KITCHEN WAS SERVICE ENTRANCE

This Hanoverian princess and able British queen had, evidently, during the four times she served as Regent, a far wiser, kindlier and closer contact with events and affairs in the British Colonies in America than ever had the king. It is significant that the Virginians named a county in her honor. This British sovereign's gift to Thomas Lee is perhaps the only instance in American history where such a circumstance is chronicled and it lends peculiar interest to the records of Stratford Hall. Practical aid and sympathy for Thomas Lee came from every quarter on land and overseas to help him build anew.

Away from the charred and blackened area where the old Mount Pleasant manor stood—Burnt House Fields it was ever afterwards named by the Lees and was eventually converted into a family burial ground—over the forests and broad fields Thomas Lee moved to the Stratford lands which he had inherited from his father, and, in the early spring of 1729, the building of Stratford Hall was begun.

It was a great building. From England came the plans, the ideas, the materials in large part, all the furnishings and household goods; the fruit trees, flowers, shrubs, and box for the gardens the orchards and vineyards. The house

NORTH ENTRANCE, ONCE THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE FACING THE RIVER : AN IMPOSING FLIGHT O STONE STEPS LED TO THE OVAL-SHAPED GARDENS WHICH SLOPED IN A SUCCESSION OF TERRACES TO THE WATER'S EDGE

was builded in great proportions, on English lines, by English standards—built to last—and it was the stateliest mansion of its time in colonial Virginia. And more than this, it was, in its very inception, as the story shows, a House of Friends. In very truth . . . fairy godmothers presided over the making of this home and wove blessed influences over the hearth and marriage bed of Thomas and Hannah Ludwell Lee.

Their son Richard Henry Lee was born in this house not long after its full completion, on January 20, 1732,—Richard Henry Lee, who was destined to become a stalwart opponent to slavery; a patriot, fighting courageously every arbitrary measure of the British ministry; a delegate to the First Continental Congress, writer and speaker in behalf of the colonies whose words flashed like the Northern Lights over young America—mover of the Resolution of June 10, 1776, that will go down the ages—"These Colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states"—leader of the Revolutionary Congress, signer of the Declaration of Independence.

At the same time in the manor house of Wakefield on the Potomac, that plantation founded in 1665 by John Washington the Emigrant, and lived in during the early 18th century by his descendant Augustine Washington and his wife, Mary Ball Washington, friends and neighbors of Thomas and Hannah Lee—at the same time, almost to the very day, there was born George Washington, first President of the United States. Surely the two young mothers carried those miraculous babes each to the other from Stratford to Wakefield and Wakefield to Stratford every day in the week and every hour in the day to compare their beatitudes! The Lee family records are not as specific on this point as they might be; it must be assumed as an historic fact!

Within the next ten years there were born to Thomas and Hannah Ludwell Lee at Stratford Hall: Francis Lightfoot Lee who also became a delegate to the Continental Congress, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and a constructive worker in the nation's making; William Lee, the diplomatist; Arthur Lee, who with Benjamin Franklin negotiated and signed the treaty of alliance, amity and commerce with France, and in later years drew up some of our nation's first treaties with the Indians; Alice Lee, who married William Shippen Jr., of Pennsylvania who became chief physician to the Flying Camp of the Continental Armies, Director-General of the first American military hospitals and the founder of the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania. Thomas Lee, who during the Revolution was one of the first of the colonists to lead Virginians in battle against the British, was an older son. He is described by President John Adams as "the most popular man in Virginia and the delight of the eyes of every Virginian." Their second son, Philip Ludwell Lee who inherited Stratford at his father's death also became a pronounced force in the political, social and economic life of early Virginia.

Not any one home in the entire history of America ever sent forth such men as the six sons of Thomas and Hannah Ludwell Lee, "that band of brothers" said President John Adams in 1819, "intrepid and unchangeable, who, like the Greeks at Thermopylæ stood in the gap, in the defence of their country from the first glimmering of the Revolution in the horizon, through all its rising light to its perfect day."

An event of national interest in the year 1744 in which Philip Ludwell Lee took part with his father was the conference with the Six Nations, and the making of the Treaty of Lancaster. For some years Thomas Lee had been formulating a project by which the territory westward of the Alleghanies to the Ohio river, then inhabited solely by savages, might be secured for English settlement. A commission to treat with the Indians was appointed by the Governor of the Colony of Virginia, of which Thomas Lee was made head.

The members of the commission gathered together at Stratford Hall early in May. "On the morning of the 17th," to quote the picturesque lines of a Scotchman, William Black, who accompanied the expedition, "we embarked on board the Margaret Yacht lying off Stratford on Potomac and about ten minutes after was under sail with a small Breeze of Wind at S. W., One Jack Ensign and Pennon flying. After the Vessel had got way with the Trumpet we hailed the Company (who came to the waterside to see us on Board) with Fare-you-well, who returned the complement wishing us a Good Voyage and Safe Return, for which on the part of the Company I gave them Thanks with the discharge of our Blunderbuss. As far as I could observe the gentlemen and ladies on the sandy Bank we had Full Sails, but on losing sight of them, or on their returning we lost our Wind, which made me conclude the Gentle Gale we had then was nothing but the tender wishes of the Women for their Husbands and the affectionate Concern of the Mothers for their Sons, Breath'd after us in Gentle Sighs."

The journal of this trip which lasted for many weeks is quaint and interesting and is a record of one festivity after another until the commissioners reach their appointed goal in Pennsylvania. The exuberant diarist mentions with marked appreciation such hosts as "kept a Glass of Good Wine and were as free of it as an Apple Tree of its fruit on a Windy Day in July." It was he who related the often repeated story of the Indians rejection of their gin and brandy in small French glasses asking instead for large English glasses.

At the conferences with the chiefs of the various tribes of the Six Nations in Lancaster County, Thomas Lee said to them: "We are desirous to live with you, Our Brothers, according to the old chain of Friendship, to settle all these matters fairly and honestly, and as a pledge of our sincerety we give you this belt of Wampum." A first payment of the sum of four hundred pounds was given to the Indians with promise of further payments and the Indians granted the Virginians the right to settle the land west of the Alleghanies.

This was but one of many public services given by Thomas Lee. Stratford on the Potomac was a social and political centre of the Colony, and gay, hospitable, wholesome, charming. The Home House was full of guests from week to week; there were dinners, dances, sailing parties, hunting parties.

The great central hall was ideal for dancing and for social gatherings. It is a

noble stately room with a high, dome-shaped ceiling. Its walls are paneled in oak with bookcases set in them. Family portraits by master painters were on the walls, portraits of the early Richard Lees, of the celebrated Ludwells, Thomas Lee and his wife, Hannah Ludwell Lee and their distinguished sons. According to the *William and Mary Quarterly* the Stratford library was exceptional, containing about 300 titles, among them Greek and Latin books of great value, very rare in the Colony. Not even the remarkable library of William Byrd of Westover, the greatest library of colonial Virginia, had certain of the classics to be found in Stratford. Every Lee was a reader and a scholar,—as well as a soldier and a statesman.

In the colonial times, there were in this great central hall, besides books and portraits, guns, swords, spurs, chests of linen and Jacobean tables, benches and chairs; for it was used precisely as the old mediaeval halls were used—for every purpose except for sleeping. To have in America today so ancient a room, beautiful and stately, so full of noble memories, is an extraordinary happening —a rich delight.

Stratford had its place in the sun!

Suddenly—the dark came. Hannah Lee died in January, 1749-50—Hannah Ludwell Lee so beloved by her husband and children. Her untimely death must have wrought heartbreaking sorrow at Stratford Hall. As mistress of the great house she had for years directed the domestic affairs of the family, the indentured servants and the many slaves, and all of the household arts and industries of the huge plantation. The children too, most of them, were still so young. Of her six sons destined to take such high place in American history, Thomas and Philip Ludwell were the only ones grown up. Richard Henry was seventeen years old; Francis Lightfoot, fifteen; William, ten and little Arthur only nine.

At the time of grief there came to her husband the highest honor in the gift of England for a Virginian, the position of President of the Council and Commander-in-Chief over the Colony of Virginia as the Royal Governor, Sir William Gooch, had been recalled. Thus Stratford on the Potomac became in the year 1749-50 the Executive mansion of the Colony.

What were honors then to Thomas Lee! She who had been his companion in struggle and achievement was gone—the mother of his superb and glorious children, his beloved comrade along every step of their forward march together. He was bereft indeed. He did not live the year out. Before his royally appointed commission could reach him he died. A solitary record speaks this man's profound devotion to his wife, the final words of his last will and testament: " . . . as to my body, I desire, if it pleases God that I die anywhere in Virginia, it may be buried between my late dearest wife and my honour'd mother and that the bricks on the side next my wife may be moved and my coffin placed as near

hers as is possible, without removing or disturbing the remains of my mother."

The first act of their son Philip Ludwell Lee, the heir-at-law, was to carry out this desire of his father, his Honour'd Father as he always spoke of him, and in the family burial ground at old Mount Pleasant, "The Burnt House Fields" the two graves were made as one and covered with one slab on which was engraved the following inscription:

"Here lies buried the Hon'ble Colonel Thomas Lee who died 14 November 1750; aged 60 years; and his beloved wife Mrs. Hannah Lee. She departed this life Jan. 1749-50. Their monument is erected in the lower church of Washington Parish in this County five miles above their country seat Stratford Hall."

This tombstone is today at Stratford. The monument erected by Philip Ludwell Lee to the memory of his father and mother, "as a just and dutiful tribute to so excellent a Father and Mother Patterns of Conjugal Virtue", was placed in the old Pope's Creek Church.

At the time his parents died Philip Ludwell Lee was a Member of the House of Burgesses, a Member of the Council and Secretary of the Council. Like his distinguished uncles he had been educated in England and had studied law at the Inner Temple, thus was well equipped to handle the vast estates in West-

A PLAIN SIMPLE BEDROOM SACRED IN THE
ANNALS OF AMERICAN HISTORY AS THE ROOM IN WHICH WERE BO
TWO SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
AND THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE
ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERACY

moreland and Northumberland Counties, including Stratford Hall, left him by his father as the eldest surviving son. The grants of land which Thomas Lee had taken out on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and far up the Potomac near the Great Falls were also left to Philip. He was charged too, with the care and education of his younger brothers.

Philip Lee carried out each clause of his father's will in the letter and the spirit. He spared no expense in giving to his brothers every advantage of education, travel abroad and cultural opportunities the times afforded. So concerned was he to carry out in every particular his father's desires that he even required Arthur to study medicine when Arthur wanted to study law—sent him to the University of Edinburgh rather than Oxford, and further decreed that Arthur practise medicine in Williamsburg a space, long enough to satisfy his father's wishes, and not until then could he mount into his own.

Further illustration of the reverence and devotion the young men of the Lee family felt for Thomas Lee is shown in the following letter to his parents from his grandson, and namesake, Thomas Lee Shippen of Philadelphia, son of Alice Lee, who visited Stratford with his uncle Arthur in the fall of 1790:

"Stratford, the seat of my forefathers, is a place of which too much cannot be said; whether you consider the venerable magnificence of its buildings, the happy disposition of its grounds or the extent and variety of its prospects . . . Stratford, whose delightful shades formed the comfort and retirement of my wise and philosophical grandfather, with what mixture of awe and gratification did I explore and admire your beauties! What a delightful occupation did it afford me, sitting on one of the sofas of the great hall to trace the family resemblance in the portraits of all my dear mother's forefathers, her father and mother, her grandfather and so on upwards of four generations.

"Their pictures drawn by the most eminent artists of Europe and in large gilt frames adorn one of the most spacious and beautiful halls I have ever seen. There is something truly noble in my grandfather's picture. He is dressed in a large wig flowing over his shoulders, probably his official wig as President of the Council, and in a loose gown of crimson satin richly ornamented. I mention the dress as it may serve to convey to you some idea of the stile of the picture. But it is his physiognomy that strikes you with emotion, a blend of goodness and greatness, a sweet yet penetrating eye, a finely marked set of features and a heavenly countenance. Such I have almost never seen. Do not think me extravagant; my feelings were certainly so when I dwelt with rapture on the portraits of Stratford, and felt so strong an inclination to kneel to that of my grandfather . . .

"It was with difficulty that my uncles who accompanied me could persuade me to leave the hall and look at the gardens, vineyards, orangeries and lawns which surround the house."

Philip Lee experienced the satisfaction of seeing each of his younger brothers on the road to achievement and distinction, and each one a patriot after his own and his father's heart. No easy task—this, for an older brother! Few older brothers in history or in the whole range of legend and literature were ever as scrupulous, as just and kind as Philip Ludwell Lee. According to their

father's will, and by means of the just administration of Philip Lee each brother, in addition to the opportunities for education and travel given him, received a handsome estate upon coming of age.

Meanwhile Stratford on the Potomac was always their Home House. Philip Lee and his wife, Elizabeth Steptoe Lee, kept up the tradition of hospitality, elegance and state established by Thomas and Hannah Lee. Music played again at Stratford Hall. Philip Lee's two young daughters, Matilda and Flora, were leading belles of Tidewater Virginia. Dances were held regularly in the great entrance hall and Stratford had its own band of negro musicians as General Lee relates. The roof from which there was so beautiful a view of the river, was used for promenades between the dances and the great chimney groups as summer houses. On moonlight nights the young people danced on one of the barges anchored off Stratford Landing. Again there were fox hunts, riding, driving, hunting. Stratford was the meeting place of all the kin from far and near, the home of the entire Lee clan, young Henry Lee among them—dashing, gallant, Lighthorse Harry Lee!

PART III. *In which the Fates weave threads of shadow and sunlight in the life of Lighthorse Harry Lee*

OF COURSE it happened. How could it have been otherwise! Harry Lee fell in love with Matilda, "the Divine Matilda", she is spoken of in an old record.

Harry Lee's home was yonder up the Potomac near Dumfries, Virginia. His first American ancestor was Richard Lee the Emigrant, also the ancestor of Matilda. His mother was Lucy Grymes, the girl George Washington adored —once upon a time—"The Lowland Beauty" of his boyish verses.

Happenings in the Colonies in those years of stupendous, epoch-making events, from 1770 to 1780, moved with such rapidity that no chronicle can keep pace. When Harry Lee was not at Princeton, doubtless he was at Stratford. There must have been a gay, bright comradeship and high-hearted devotion between the boy and girl—but set against so black a horizon! As the storm clouds gathered between England and America and the patriots of Virginia —the Lees in the forefront—took their stand, Stratford on the Potomac became a centre of propaganda for the Revolution, a meeting place of the conspirators for right and justice. For Matilda Lee and Harry Lee, the music of the dance gave place to distant boom of cannon. Suddenly . . . there was Lexington! Patrick Henry nominated Harry Lee for the position of captain of cavalry—and he, nineteen years old, just out of Princeton and thinking to sail for England to study law as all the Lee men before him did.

History tells the rest about Lighthorse Harry Lee, but it doesn't tell all of the reasons he had for winning his spurs in such gallant style. Certainly vision of Matilda and the peace of Stratford Hall must have been in his brave heart thru all those savage years.

Stratford Hall was attacked by the British and the "minute men of old Westmoreland" were called to arms by Mr. Lee, according to F. H. Alexander's account, quoting Major Henry Lee, son of Lighthorse Harry Lee. The precise date is lacking and the Mr. Lee referred to may have been Philip Ludwell Lee or his brother Thomas. Here is the record:

"During the War of the Revolution, and I believe while Mr. Jefferson was Governor of Virginia, a British squadron which had been scouring the waters and wasting the shores of the Chesapeake, taking advantage of a favorable breeze suddenly came to off the

coast of Virginia where the majestic cliffs of Westmoreland overlook the stormy and sea-like Potomac. . . Mr. Lee hastily collected a small, ill-armed band among neighbors, led them to the point (Stratford Landing?) on which the enemy had commenced descent and attacked them. He drove the party on shore back into their barges and held them aloof until ships were brought to cover the landing with round shot and shells which he had no means of returning. Several of the hostile party were killed or wounded, one man was buried on shore. In a grove of aged beech trees, not far from Mr. Lee's residence rest the remains of this unknown and unforgotten foe."

At the present time there is at Stratford Hall one of these curious round shot which was fired at the house by the English warship. Some years ago, before the day of the automobile, this was used as a hitching block.

In 1775 Stratford Hall lost its owner Philip Ludwell Lee, Matilda's father, the beloved "Elder Brother" of the Lee clan. He died in the 49th year of his age. As his only son Philip had died in infancy, the estate passed to his widow, and five years later, upon her remarriage, her interest was purchased for Matilda, who thus became the owner of Stratford on the Potomac, mistress of the great house, of the huge plantation, the slaves, the forests and the ships.

In 1779 an extraordinary act in the arena of war came to pass which placed the name of young Harry Lee upon every tongue in the colonies: it was the surprise and capture of Paulus Hook wherein the young soldier gave so striking an example of prudence, bravery and tactical skill that Congress gave him a gold medal inscribed: "Notwithstanding rivers and intrenchments he with a small band conquered the foe by warlike skill and prowess, and firmly bound by his humanity, those who had been conquered by his arms."

Shortly afterwards his commander-in-chief General Washington who cared deeply for the boy from the very day of his birth—in that he was his mother's son, and come to be a man after his own heart—formed for him a company of picked men and picked horses—a cavalry command such as performed miracles in that day and time, and he gave this corps to Harry Lee, promoted him to Lieutenant Colonel of Dragoons, assigned him to the Southern Department under his friend General Nathanael Greene—and turned him loose. Thus he came to have his name of Lighthorse Harry Lee and became for all time the boy's hero of the War of the Revolution.

And when the war was over Lighthorse Harry Lee came home . . . to Stratford and he married Matilda Lee. Their marriage took place in the year 1782. In that swift interval Lighthorse Harry Lee had come to have high place in Virginia and the nation. The ownership of Stratford Hall passed then into the hands of this illustrious patriot of the Revolution. His civil career was as striking and effective as his military career had been. As delegate to the Confederation Congress in 1786 he helped bring about the adoption of the Constitution. During the time he was serving in the General

Assembly in 1790 a heavy sorrow fell upon him. Matilda died. She left two children, Lucy Lee and little Henry Lee.

General Henry Lee buried her at Stratford and built the great vault, a massive brick structure, and brought the tombstone—and perhaps the bodies—no one knows, of Thomas and Hannah Ludwell Lee from Burnt House Fields to Stratford. This vault has been in ruins for fifty years or more. Edmund Lee describes it in detail.

The year following Matilda's death Henry Lee was elected Governor of Virginia and during that period he was fortunately called again into the field. President Washington, desirous of testing the mettle of the new Constitution when the Whiskey Riots in western Pennsylvania threatened its destruction, appointed his favorite soldier to command the 15,000 troops mustered in from the middle Atlantic states. And Lighthorse Harry Lee and Alexander Hamilton put down that rebellion without the loss of a single life.

Colonel Harry's next office was that of U. S. Representative from Virginia. He was in Congress when General Washington died. As one man every member of the House turned to Henry Lee when the moment came for the address commemorating the services of the nation's first President, and the words spoken then by Lighthorse Harry Lee are part of the records of the ages: Washington—"First in war; First in peace and First in the hearts of his countrymen!"

Time went by and a blessed experience came like light over the gaunt shadows of this man's life: once more the happiness of love came to him and the devotion and dream of a gracious and delicately bred young woman—Anne Hill Carter of Shirley on the James.

What that very name connotes to a Virginian! Anne Carter was a quiet, well-poised young woman of dignity, sweetness, sympathy. The two planned to marry and go to France to live. Colonel Harry would then if he could have put the ocean between himself and Stratford Hall, but Anne Carter's father forbade the marriage unless they would remain in Virginia, for he would not have his beloved daughter so far away from Shirley. In those days, a father's will being law, the lovers remained in Virginia, married and went to live at Stratford Hall.

Again came the miracle: everlasting gift to America in the being of a son born at Stratford Hall—Robert Edward Lee. When he was born the generation associated with the most important labors of George Washington's life had not passed away. Says James P. Holcombe:

"It was the happy fortune of young Robert E. Lee to be nursed on the breast of gentle manners, and to breathe from infancy the pure air of honor, patriotism and virtue. . . . An old and settled society existed in Virginia, rich in the traditions of centuries, characterized by simplicity of manners, genial courtesy and hospitality, purity and refinement of domestic life, honor, dignity, manliness and patriotism among public men. . . . The

attachment of his father to Washington was almost idolatrous and this mingled love and reverence descended to his children. . . . The influence of Washington like a tutelary genius overshadowed his life . . ."

With his growing young family, ever increasing responsibilities and the heavy expense of the upkeep of so vast a plantation, with the weekly visits of the guests and friends and kin from all the country round who counted Stratford home—added to the fact that Colonel Harry's military services tho bringing him fame and honor had brought him no profit and his civil offices little more—all this drove in some bitter facts to the family in Stratford Hall. The Home House began to need repairs, but there were no funds available; the outbuildings were running down—they could not be kept up; the gardens and the orchards were fading away; the splendour and the state of Stratford Hall in the days of Thomas and Hannah Lee and Philip Ludwell Lee were gone. Hoping to break the financial deadlock Colonel Harry began the writing of his memoirs—that valuable and interesting record of the Revolutionary War in the Southern Department of the United States—the last measure in the world, however, to retrieve falling fortunes!

There was Stratford's tradition of hospitality—generations deep . . . that twelve foot wide kitchen hearth big enough to roast a fair-sized ox—and everybody—everybody coming from far and wide to drink a health to Lighthorse Harry Lee—a health from his own wine cellar—and that cellar running dry!

It was not possible for the family to have tutors at Stratford for the children as had been the practice in former days so finally in 1811, when the youngest boy—little Robert—was four years old, Colonel Harry moved into Alexandria where the children could have school facilities and where housekeeping was more convenient for his delicate wife.

His eldest son Henry—the son of Matilda, grown by this time, had entered the United States Army and was then on the frontier of Canada. The war of 1812 was beginning, Colonel Harry was making arrangements to take part and chanced to be in Baltimore visiting a friend of his, an editor opposed to the war, when a mob attacked the office. Springing to the rescue of his friend General Lee received grave and terrible injuries from the infuriated people, from which he never recovered. From that day until the year of his death in 1818 he never had a moment free of suffering and pain. He sought the West Indies hoping to regain his health and was on his way home to die when he was so ill he was carried to the home of his friend and comrade in arms, General Greene on Cumberland Island, Georgia, and there he died and was buried.

Upon the slender upright shoulders of Anne Carter Lee came now the responsibility that had been Mary Ball's, mother of Washington—the respon-

sibility and the labor of rearing her children without their father's aid. To Robert, from the time of his earliest childhood she had been both mother and father too, and he was everything to her.

To Lighthorse Harry Lee's son Henry descended the estate of Stratford on the Potomac. Like every owner of the historic mansion Major Henry Lee also had a distinguished career. He was born at Stratford May 28, 1787 and attended William and Mary College at Williamsburg and was appointed Major in the 36th Regiment by President Madison. Following his return from the Canadian frontier, Major Lee became an ardent supporter of Andrew Jackson and an influential worker in canvassing the south for his election to the Presidency. In 1817 he married Anne McCarty, daughter of Daniel McCarty of Westmoreland and they had one child, Margaret Lee.

Major Henry's younger half brothers and sisters—Robert especially—were always welcome visitors at Stratford Hall and often stayed there for months at a time after their father's death, until Sidney Lee went to Annapolis and Robert E. Lee went to West Point. Sidney Lee became as great a figure in the United States Navy and the Confederate Navy as did Robert in the army and was one of the most charming and beautiful characters of the south.

For many years during Colonel Harry's long illness debts had been accumulating about Stratford like clouds around a mountain peak. The vast acreage dwindled. Major Lee worked incessantly to conserve the place which was the only heritage of his little daughter Margaret, the idol of his life. Margaret was heiress of the ancient pile just as her beautiful grandmother Matilda Lee had been. Suddenly, one stormy day—about 1828-29—when the child was ten years old, she was playing in the great entrance hall, and ran out of the front door, stumbled and fell down the high stone steps and was instantly killed.

Her father left Stratford Hall never to return. He went to Algiers, he went to Italy, to France, where he remained, beginning work on his history of Napoleon's Italian campaigns, completed the first volume and died in Paris, January 30, 1837. According to H. Latane Lewis, Major Henry Lee was the last Lee owner of Stratford Hall. His half-brother Charles Carter Lee lived there for a while and after him the place passed into the possession of the family of Major Lee's wife, the McCartys who willed it to one of their relatives, Dr. Richard Stuart, long a devoted friend and neighbor of the Lees and Washingtons. His son, Charles Edward Stuart is the present owner.

And this was the end of the story of the Lees of Stratford Hall—the end saving for those letters written by General Robert E. Lee from the battlefields to his wife and daughters wherein he desires to purchase it back for the home of their closing years, wherein he speaks of the spring, the trees his mother planted and his days of gladness there.

PART IV. *In which are given pictures of the Home House*

EXTRAORDINARY and inspiring as is this record of the Lees of Stratford Hall, yet it is as the birthplace of General Lee that the place is loved by the people of the South; as the childhood home of their Beloved Great Commander—one of the fountain sources of his strength of spirit and of body—the place of rest and recreation of all his youthful years, the place where he spent his happiest days and towards which he yearned during the last years of his life. It is the heartfelt desire and prayer of countless people of the United States that Stratford on the Potomac may become, like Mount Vernon and Wakefield, a possession of the Nation and a shrine of pilgrimage for all time to come.

Many writers have drawn pictures of this deeply loved Home House. Thomas Nelson Page speaks of it as "a massive brick mansion, one of the most impressive piles of brick on this continent which, even in its dilapidation, looks as though it might have been built by Elizabeth and bombarded by Cromwell."

G. Mercer Adam says Stratford is "a magnificent manor house long a marvel among the colonial homes of the Old Dominion." Josephine Wheelwright Rust who is consecrating her life to the restoration of Wakefield and who spent her childhood in the fields of Westmoreland says: "Stratford is a noble pile! No other homestead now standing in Virginia has greater historical meaning, for Stratford represents the trinity of interests, the colonial and the Revolutionary periods and the period of the War between the States."

Edmund Lee, from whom all writers about the Lees of Stratford Hall derive their basic facts, writes: "Stratford House with its solid walls and massive, rough-hewn timbers seems rather to represent strength and solidity than elegance or comfort. Its large rooms with numerous doors and windows heated only by the large open fire-places, would today scarcely be considered habitable. Nor would the modern housewife care to have her kitchen placed out in the yard some fifty or sixty feet from her dining room. The house was built in the shape of the letter H the cross line being a large hall room of some twenty five by thirty feet serving as the connecting link between the two wings; these wings are about thirty feet wide by sixty feet deep. The house contains some eighteen large rooms exclusive of the hall . . . A stairway leads from the (forecourt) to the rear door of the hall room. The room to the right (southeast corner) is the bedroom in which tradition states that Richard Henry Lee and his brothers, and Robert E. Lee were born.

"The hall room was used in those days as a library and general sitting room, especially

in summer, being large, airy, well lighted and ventilated. The ceiling is very high, dome-shaped; the walls are panelled in oak with book cases set in them; back and front are doors leading into the garden, flanked on either side by windows . . . On the other two sides of this hall, between the book cases are two doors opening into the wings . . . Portions of the stable yet remaining show it to have been very large . . ."

A description of Stratford Hall by Edith Tunis Sale in *Interiors of Virginia Houses of Colonial Times*, printed by the William Byrd Press, Richmond, Va., 1927, an article distinguished for its artistic feeling, technical knowledge and exact observation of detail, is in part as follows:

"This old dwelling in plain view from the country road looms against a tree-fringed background and is unlike any residence in America. The massive solidity of the early eighteenth century homestead captures one even before it is known to be Stratford Hall, the home of the Virginia Lees. The dwelling stands true to its builder [whose fathers] had known and loved such houses in 'Merrie England', and though the walls seem to rise from the ground of a low situation, the structure in reality crowns the summit of a high bluff some distance from the Potomac River . . .

"Although Stratford has been called a building of a story and a half, this is misleading, as the high basement forms the first storey, and the floor above, the second. The walls are built of brick which in the remarkably high basement are larger than the rest and are laid in Flemish bond. The remainder of the dwelling shows English

THE EIGHT-PANELED DOORS OF
THE ENTRANCE HALL AND THE LONG WINDOWS
SET IN DEEP REVEAL WITH
COMFORTABLE SEATS

bonding. Another curious fact about Stratford is that in the basement the window-panes are eight by ten inches while those of the second storey are much larger. The latter contain eighteen panes each and the former has sixteen. Each window is spanned by a flat arch of bricks of pinkish tone and all have slat shutters of faded green.

"The early colonists seem to have had a penchant for houses in the shape of letters. In Virginia T, E, L, and H are represented and the Lee homestead portrays the lines of an H. A central building twenty five by thirty feet has a gable roof, and upon each end wings of the same height which measure thirty by sixty feet are placed at right angles and have hipped roofs. From the centre of each wing roof, four sturdy chimneys, united by the same number of brick arches, present an individual effect. The arrangement of these quadruple chimneys permitted space for a secret room eight feet square whose walls are discoloured by the flame of lamp or candle. Hidden by a plank to which a spring was attached, the tiny chamber, evidently known in the days of Indians, was unknown by later generations until a carpenter inadvertently touched the spring releasing the board.

"A long flight of greatly worn stone steps with wrought-iron railing leads directly to the south entrance, which is the most formal of the three in the house. This outside stairway rises from a very small paved forecourt where the old bricks are almost smothered under violets and periwinkle. The door one enters above the little court has a classical enframement of brick, being one of the three in Virginia, and when slightly open gives an enchanting glimpse whose prophecy is more than realized when one stands within the great hall, which still maintains the traditions of the old

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE ENTRANCE HALL
SHOWING THE PANELED WALLS AND DEEP CORNICE
BOOKCASES BUILT INTO THE WALL BETWEEN
THE PILASTERS WITH THEIR ANTIQUE
BRASS LOCKS AND HINGES

English hall and is, here, in the second storey of the house. This splendid saloon has great distinction. The walls are covered with very wide panels of natural colour pine cut to fit each space. Every panel is flanked by Corinthian pilasters of black walnut, the doors, cornice, handrail, and baseboard being also of the rich dark wood. The great height of the room is ameliorated by a ceiling which curves up from the cornice below,—a very happy use of perspective. At both ends of the hall, bookcases are built into the wall between the pilasters, and these have very small antique brass locks with pulls, and brass H hinges of two parts which can be snapped or unsnapped at will. The cornice is very deep and breaks out above each pilaster, with which the course of details is in perfect accord. The handrail protrudes and the wainscot panels follow in width the same lines as those above.

"The four windows are set in deep reveal and have delightfully comfortable seats. The furniture is stylistic. The large mahogany sofa is said to have been at Stratford ever since the house was built, and all of the rest—which is cane—is reputed to have been in the hall beyond the memory of many generations of the original family. The wood detail is characteristic of Seventeen-thirty.

"The eight-panelled doors at either end of the saloon open into cross halls each of which extends through a wing to end at the east and west porticos. In the west hallway a door on the right takes one into the drawingroom where the floor is covered in Victorian fashion. The panelled dado, however, is true to type, and this, like the mantel of a later day, is enriched with gouging. The cross against 'witches' stands out in relief against the two upper panels of the door and gives every evidence of having been the work of someone unskilled. The door-frame, too, is rather crude, but the manner in which the moulding is fitted to form the 'dog's ears' is admirable. A modern brick facing proves that some space was taken from the original fireplace opening, and the mantel although of very good lines shows the mark of post-Revolutionary days.

"Across from the parlour is a charming chamber, all white and old-fashioned blue with the exception of the splendid mantel of natural wood embellished with simulated pilasters on each side. The four-poster bed is draped with blue, and the delightful little arch head cupboard between the mantel and the wall is worthy of the best modern architect. The walls and dado cap are painted white, the baseboard black, and the space between chair-rail and baseboard is of a very soft light colour. At the rear of this is the Green Room, also a sleeping chamber.

"The absence of a stairway on the main floor is noted at once, but this is explained when it is understood that the original is in the basement of the west wing. And a charming stairway it is. Occupying the space opposite the alcove leading to the Green Room, this delicate stair, in an uncommon way, descends between the walls to a landing with just three steps below. The balustrade has plain spindles, but the mahogany hand rail is very beautiful and frail in size and design. From the landing it swings out gradually, then suddenly turns swiftly to cap the newel but little larger than the balusters. Although the brackets are uncarved, they are of beautiful outline, and these, with balustrade and risers, are painted white. A wide, low window lights the stairway, and another just below the steps of natural finish affords light for the small square hall from which access is had to the dining room.

"The east wing duplicates the arrangement of the other. This also has a stair basement, though of nineteen century date. Across the hall from the stairway are two chambers—one of which was once the dining room, but the room of greatest interest and human quality is in the southeast corner of the house.

"This room is not notable for architectural detail or for any particular decoration.

It is just a plain simple room such as any American family might have, and yet its walls are hallowed, for within them came into being three of the nation's greatest men,—Richard Henry Lee, Francis Lightfoot Lee, and General Robert Edward Lee! The modest chamber has walls of white plaster surrounded with a pine dado painted dark brown and with a gouged dado cap. The mantel is also delicately gouged, and above the shelf, in the oval gold frames of long gone generations, are pictures of some charming women of the Stratford family. The dark cornice is puritanically plain and the walls are discoloured by the smoke of many years.

"Still another likeness, although hung upon the wall, catches the eye of the visitor, and this, from the brush of Sully, is of Anne Carter Lee, the second wife of Light-Horse Harry Lee. A door on the inner side leads into the old-time nursery where the baby Lees, doomed to be famous, romped and played as other children do.

"Stratford Hall shows certain architectural styles of Queen Anne's reign interpreted —with the exception of the carved capitals in the saloon—by Virginia house-wrights. The woodwork is of the type that had been in use fifty years when the house was built, and it suits perfectly its purpose and place. Steep stone steps with an iron railing climb up against the wall to the small eastern portico like that on the west side, although the latter has no outside entrance. The east steps mount from a flagstone pavement and were, judging from their nearness to the outside kitchen, evidently the service ertrance. In dutiful fashion, ferns and mosses cover the well-worn niches in the steps, and over the balcony above, a clematis paniculata throws its blossoms like a mantle of white lace.

"The four outbuildings centred by the great house are stable, office, milk house, and kitchen, each about thirty by forty-five feet, and all with quaint curb roofs. All but one have two tall chimneys which rise from the roof centre and are held together at the top somewhat like those of the main building. Stone walls eight feet high link one of these to the stable on the west side, while a twelve foot crumbling brick wall encloses the kitchen square. The latter has an enormous fireplace where, tradition relates, a whole ox could be roasted, The broad-throated fireplace opening is twelve feet wide and has at each end a swinging crane. The arched top is eight feet high in the centre, and here there is an oaken lintel as black as ebony and as hard as lignum vitae. This gives an idea of the amount of entertaining done at the plantation when the Virginia Colony was in its youth. These quaint outbuildings seem to stretch friendly arms out to the rolling grain fields.

"Where the colonial garden once gaily bloomed, one sees occasionally a stray shrub or flower, but the trees that were but saplings when the dwelling was erected amply compensate for the loss of all colour but green. An enormous linden throws out its arms between the dwelling and the kitchen; a leaning hemlock stands very near the house; and a pear tree has been so bent and warped by storm that an artist would delight to make use of it in a landscape composition. Beyond this there is nothing left of the garden but crêpe myrtles and old fig trees.

"The fig trees were quite noted in the early days of the Republic, for one reads in 'The Journal of a Young Lady in Virginia', an entry of October, Seventeen ninety-two: 'Cousin Nancy and myself have just returned from taking an airing in the Chariot. We went to Stratford, walked in the garden, sat about two hours under a beautiful shade tree and ate as many figs as we could.'

"The brick wall that surrounded the cemetery is rapidly falling away and the vault that was once within the burial plot was in such a crumbling state that the owner of Stratford had it pulled to the ground, placing in its stead a large mound with the stone from the grave of President Lee upon the top. . . .

"Old Stratford has been the setting of striking bits of Colonial life. Notwithstanding the many miles between the estate and the nearest plantation the family of President-Governor Lee never felt the pangs of isolation, for they were either entertaining their neighbors and friends or the latter were playing hosts to them. For the older people there were cards, and chess and light wines for amusement. For the younger generation besides 'Button' and charmony there were weekly dancing classes held at the various plantations. Considering the class at Stratford the observant Fithian wrote in his journal: 'About six in the evening the Chariot returned with Bob, Miss Prissy and Nancy from the dance at Stratford—Miss Prissy told us that they had an elegant dance on the whole—that Mr. Christian, the Master, danced several minuets prodigiously beautiful, that Captain Grigg danced a Minuet with her, that he hobbled most dolefully, and that the whole assembly laughed.' This Captain Grigg receives frequent mention in the diaries of the Rappahannock and Potomac River gentry; he must have been quite an amusing and original character. The rapidly increasing wealth of the Colonial families brought about new luxuries and there is a record of a foreign order sent by General Henry Lee for a new style lamp to be shipped to Stratford. 'You will very much oblige me,' he wrote, 'by getting for me one of the most improved modern lamps of polished tin, such as Doctor Franklin brought over with him for giving greater splendor of light to a Parlour where it will sit. If, in order to use the lamp, any explanation is necessary, let such explanation accompany it.'

"The old forecourt has been the scene of fascinating bits of eighteenth century life. It was here that President Lee would enter his coach and drive to Williamsburg with six outriders as protection. Again, the hunt would meet before the great house—the baying of the long eared hounds, the pink coated huntsmen, the dancing horses ready to be off, making a picture that has never been equalled in the modern day. Here the guests would leave their Chariots for a ball to be held at Stratford Hall—beautiful maids with powdered hair and stiff panniers, pompous dignitaries conscious of their prominence, gay gallants whose manners were the latest in evidence at the English Court . . . Stratford Hall has neither been restored nor afflicted with additions. The worst that can be said is that a verandah was once torn away. This must have been from the north front, for at present there is no entrance at the point, though a door is there.

"The life of Stratford has been long—its importance has been monumental, and though it does not now boast the acreage of former days, more than twelve hundred acres are still attached to the manour-house."

Once upon a time a mile of solid brick wall surrounded the offices, the gardens and the stable. Much of it remains. In practically all of the old records, letters, descriptions and references to Stratford the beautiful gardens are especially mentioned. They were terraced down to the water's edge. There were box mazes, giant box hedges, box walks, a sundial, wall flowers, cinnamon pink, larkspur and roses—roses everywhere. The circles and the oval designs were filled with fanciful patterns, beds, or boutons of flowers after the fashion of the times. The design of the Stratford gardens has been reconstructed in the book *Historic Gardens of Virginia*. There were orchards, vineyards, orangeries. Pomegranates and figs grew on the eastern side. A high brick wall enclosed the kitchen garden. Squares of vegetables were outlined by orris for its roots furnished orris powder and perfume and the herb garden furnished medicine.

On three sides of the Stratford gardens stretched the vast area of plantation lands, acre on acre on acre of tobacco and beyond the primeval forest.

In front of the house facing the river Edward W. Donn Jr., has found evidences of extensive terracing, "but ploughing and the erosion thru the years have changed the original contours," he says. With Mrs. Stuart he feels that the original garden was on a much larger and more generous scale than any present day illustration shows. Towards the river, thru woods of pine, gum, holly, scrub oak, blackberry, huckleberry and thornberry and chinquapin, on a steep hillside is the spring spoken of by General Lee.

The horse chestnut trees planted by his mother are still there, one of which,—the younger one,—is in fairly good condition. Although the river cannot be seen from the main floor it is in plain view from the roof when the woods are bare. At present it is shut off by the intervening woods. When the trees are thinned out it will be possible to get the view that once was there. The river road, a picturesque plantation road, winds down to the old Stratford Landing where long ago the pinnaces, the barges and yachts and canoes of the days of President Lee and Philip Ludwell Lee were moored, where the ships from England came and went with their cargoes of tobacco for abroad and household goods, and rare old books and wines and merchandise of rich and goodly sorts for the Stratford families . . . *Quinquireme of Nineveh from distant Ophir!*

Perhaps some day this lost garden and the old lost dreams may be made to bloom again as in Mount Vernon and in Monticello—and as it will be soon in Wakefield on the Potomac. In Stratford as in Wakefield—those twin plantations founded in the days of the Powhatans—are the very roots of American history—American life—a planting of a certain noble dignity and merit. Is this heritage to the American people to be seen and cherished as a precious thing?

TENTATIVE PROPOSITION FOR THE PURCHASE OF STRATFORD HALL

SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY FOR PRESENTATION TO THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF 1928

Prepared by The William Alexander Jr. Chapter, U. D. C.
MAY FIELD LANIER, *President*

WHEREAS: We made a discovery in May 1928 of an unpublished address by Sidney Lanier which was delivered in 1870 at a meeting following the death of General Robert E. Lee held in Macon, Ga., at which time there was passed a resolution: "that we invite our countrymen to unite in some enduring testimonial to the stainless life and glorious services of our departed General and that in the judgment of this meeting such monument would assume its best propriety in the form of a great Hall of Fame to be built by such voluntary contributions as shall be within the compass of the humblest citizen who loved him and who desires the grateful privilege of laying some tribute on his tomb."

AND WHEREAS at the Convention of the United Daughters of the Confederacy of 1927 there was formed a committee for the consideration of a permanent headquarters of the organization

AND WHEREAS we ascertained that Stratford Hall in Westmoreland County, Virginia, the birthplace of General Lee, was on the market and that its owner would especially favor an offer from the United Daughters of the Confederacy: It Is Therefore

Proposed by the William Alexander Jr. Chapter U. D. C. to support the resolution proposed by Sidney Lanier and the citizens of Macon in 1870 and to bring before the annual convention of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1928 this proposition to purchase Stratford Hall, the birthplace and childhood home of General Robert E. Lee, and establish it as the general and permanent headquarters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy organization and at the same time make of it an enduring testimonial to the memory of our beloved great Commander, General Robert E. Lee.

Since Stratford Hall is located in Virginia and is one of the noble old estates of Virginia it is fitting that this enterprise should be launched and triumphantly carried thru in the administration of a Virginian, our President General, Mrs. W. C. N. Merchant.

The details of this proposition are as follows:

THAT: The United Daughters of the Confederacy make an offer of two hundred thousand dollars ($200,000.00) for Stratford Hall and three hundred acres of this estate: and that they raise an additional sum of three hundred thousand dollars

($300,000.00) to build a guest house in harmonious design with Stratford Hall, and restore the entire estate and reverently care for it as a national shrine.

In order to secure a practical working basis for this proposition tentative negotiations were entered upon by the William Alexander Jr. Chapter of Connecticut U. D. C. with the owner of Stratford, Mr. Charles Stuart, and a tentative offer of $125,000.00 was made. This was refused and the owner of Stratford stated that the only price he would consider would be the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, fifty thousand dollars in cash and the balance to be secured by first mortgage. This offer was then tentatively made by Mrs. Charles D. Lanier, President of the Connecticut Chapter, and tentatively accepted by Mr. Stuart, subject of course to approval and ratification by the national organization of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

It is definitely and clearly understood and accepted thruout the negotiations by all parties concerned that the action of the Connecticut Chapter is in no sense official and is subject in every way to ratification by the national organization, and due consideration is being taken of the Constitution and By Laws of our organization in the working out of the plan.

Within the purchase price all outbuildings on the property are included with the main building; all the tract bordering the river included in the front gardens and old Stratford Landing and the right of way to the Potomac along the old trail; the vault and burial ground of the Lee family. With the addition of a guest house Stratford Hall could readily become the permanent home and office headquarters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy as well as a national shrine. Particularly could it become a place of meeting and a place of rest and recreation for various chapter and division officers and other members of the organization thruout all seasons of the year.

An estimate of the approximate cost of restoration and repairs has been secured from the architect Edward W. Donn, Jr., of Washington, D. C., who is in charge of the Wakefield restoration work, in order to have the essential information to present to this convention. The William Alexander Jr. Chapter places the name of Mr. Donn before this organization and recommends that he be appointed the architect to have charge of this work in the event it is authorized. Mr. Donn's figures which allow for a complete restoration are as follows:

Architectural fee, (which covers everything)	$6000.00
Lighting, Heating, Water, Sewerage disposal	7500.00
Restoration of gardens and landscape area	2500.00
(If there is much transplanting and moving of large trees landscaping can be made very expensive.)	
20 room guest house (About 100,000 Cu. Ft.)	$60,000.00
Vault and burial plot	15,000.00
General repairing, brickwork, plastering, painting, stonework, roofs, etc.	20,000.00
These items total	$133,500.00

One year should be allowed for the work.

The house is not dilapidated, but it needs a thorough overhauling. The outbuildings are in much greater state of disrepair than the house itself. All roofs will have to be taken off and renewed with slate as they must be made of fireproof material for permanence.

The William Alexander Chapter also recommends that all the business arrangements in reference to the making of the offer of purchase and the negotiations for the sale be exclusively in the hands of H. Latane Lewis of Washington, D. C., the agent who has been handling the tentative negotiations.

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS: Stratford Hall is located on good roads within easy motoring distance of Washington, D. C., of Alexandria, Fredericksburg, Va., and Richmond. It is a neighboring plantation of Wakefield Manor, the birthplace of George Washington, now a much visited site, owned by the Wakefield Memorial Association, which is to be rebuilt in time for the bicentennial celebration in 1932 of the birth of George Washington. The new memorial bridge over the Potomac will also be completed; the new National Memorial Park of the battlefields of the Fredericksburg District has been established; plans for the restoration of Williamsburg are under way; an airport is to be placed on part of the Wakefield estate owned by the Government; dredging of the Potomac adjacent to Wakefield and Stratford is under consideration so that eventually the approach to all of these historic places may be by air and water as well as by motor car. These particular localities, all near Mount Vernon, will, in the very near future be visited by thousands upon thousands of people from every section of this country and abroad.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Stratford Hall is the largest mansion in the state of Virginia and of a noble, stately type of architecture preceding the colonial. It is the only example of this particular Old English type of home in America and in itself an object of extraordinary interest and picturesque, dramatic character. This mansion was built in 1729-30 by a gift from Queen Caroline to Thomas Lee for services rendered to the British Crown. "Lighthorse Harry" Lee lived here for 36 years. Many other distinguished members of the Lee family, besides General Robert E. Lee, representing the social, political, diplomatic and military life of the Nation were born in Stratford.

The gardens of Stratford Hall were once celebrated all over Virginia, the vast oval in front of the house towards the river being filled with quaint, box-bordered designs, box mazes and rosegrown summerhouses. Almost a desert now, they can be made to bloom again as in the old days and the entire estate become as Mount Vernon, cherished and revered for all time as a gift to the Nation from the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Administered by the United Daughters of the Confederacy it will be a priceless bequest.

AUTHORITIES CONSULTED

Lee of Virginia, Edmund Lee; *Virginia and Her Neighbors,* John Fiske; *Personal Reminiscences of General Robert E. Lee,* J. William Jones; *The South in the Building of the Nation,* The Southern Historical Publication Society, Richmond, Va.; *Recollections and Letters of General Robert E. Lee,* Captain Robert E. Lee; *Biographies of Robert E. Lee,* by Emily V. Mason, Fitzhugh Lee, Thomas Nelson Page; Geneological Studies, Papers, Addresses, Essays, etc., by F. W. Alexander, Lila L. Williams, J. C. Holcombe, Bishop Meade, Woodrow Wilson, Edward Howard Griggs; *Memoirs of Revolutionary War in the Southern Department of the United States,* Henry Lee; *Memoirs,* Arthur Lee; *Interiors of Virginia Houses in Colonial Times,* Edith Tunis Sale; *Historic Gardens of Virginia,* The James River Garden Club.

CONCLUSION

From a study of Robert E. Lee
by Woodrow Wilson

" . . . his achievements are in the memory not only of every soldier but of every lover of high and gifted men who likes to see achievements proceed from character, to see those things done which are not done with the selfish purpose of aggrandizement, but in order to serve a country and prove worthy of a cause. These are the things which make the name of this great man prominent not only, but in some regards unapproachable in the history of our country . . . One of the most interesting things to remember about Lee is that he was an ideal combination of what a man inherits and what he may make of himself. . . . His father Lighthorse Harry Lee was of the finest breed of those gallant soldiers who made the country free; and the lad in his boyhood must have been bred to many memories of high deeds and to many fine conceptions of patriotic service at the hearth where his father sat.

"No man gains distinction who does not make some gift of his own individuality to the thing that he does—to the generation which he serves. . . We like to remember all the splendid traditions of the Lees, but we like most of all to remember that this man was greater than all the traditions of his family; that there was a culmination here that could not have been reached by the mere drift of what men remember but must be reached by what men originate and conceive. . . . A man whom vou remember, not as a man who loved war, but as a man moved bv all the high impulses of gentle kindness, a man whom men did not fear, but loved. . . . All thru his life you are aware of a conscious self-subordination to principles which lay outside his personal life. . . . In a man like General Lee you see a common consciousness made manifest; and this singular thing revealed, that by a root which seems to be a root of failure a man may be lifted to be the model of a whole nation. For it is not an exaggeration to say that in all parts of this country the manhood and the self forgetfulness and the achievements of General Lee are a conscious model to men who would be morally great.

William Alexander Jr. Chapter, No. 1914, U. D. C., Greenwich, Conn.

MEMBERS

Mrs. Charles D. Lanier, *President*
Mrs. Coulter D. Huyler, *First Vice-President*
Mrs. John J. Naugle, *Second Vice-President*
Mrs. Stewart L. Mims, *Third Vice-President*
Mrs. Cooper D. Winn, Jr., *Recording Secretary*
Mrs. Claude A. Hope, *Corresponding Secretary*
Mrs. August Klipstein, Jr., *Treasurer*
Mrs. I. Newton Lewis, *Registrar*
Mrs. John D. Boyle, *Historian*
Mrs. Roselle Mercier Montgomery *Recorder of Crosses*

Mrs. Robert H. Bolling
Mrs. Hugh F. Fox
Miss Mary Alexander Lanier
Miss Rebecca P. Lanier
Miss Sally Lanier
Mrs. Holt M. McKinney
Mrs. H. Clay Miner
Miss Kathryn L. Miner
Miss Roselle Mercier Montgomery
Mrs. F. M. Reeder
Mrs. Stanley Resor
Mrs. I. L. W. Stetson
Mrs. Richard Roberts
Miss Laurine Barksdale Rogers
Miss Louise de G. Rogers

HONORARY MEMBER

Mrs. Mary Alexander Field

LIFE MEMBER

Henry P. Field

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

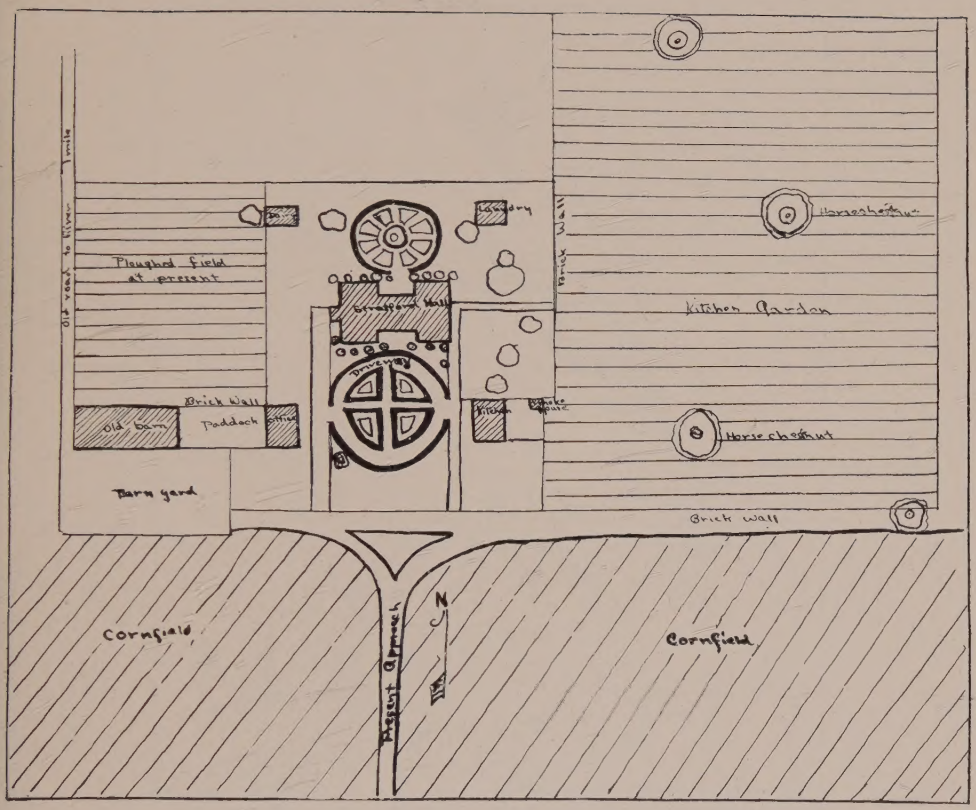
Miss Ethel Armes
Mrs. Walter Bowes
Mrs. Volney Bryan
Mrs. Samuel S. Bush
John H. Chapman
Miss Clara Fitch
Mrs. J. L. Greenwood
Mrs. Trenholm H. Marshall
Mrs. William M. Richardson
Mrs. Walter Teagle
Joseph A. Werne
Mrs. Margaret Ferrell Robinson
Mrs. Herbert Wiley

GENERAL OFFICERS

UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY

1927—1928

Mrs. W. C. N. Merchant *President-General*
Mrs. Oscar McKenzie *First Vice-President-General*
Mrs. P. H. P. Lane *Second Vice-President-General*
Mrs. Madge D. Burney *Third Vice-President-General*
Mrs. L. M. Bashinsky *Recording Secretary-General*
Mrs. B. A. Blenner *Treasurer-General*
Mrs. John L. Woodbury *Historian-General*
Mrs. Fred C. Kolman *Registrar-General*
Mrs. R. Philip Holt *Custodian of Crosses*
Mrs. Jackson Brandt *Custodian of Flags*
Miss Mary Lou Gordon White *Corresponding Secretary-General*



GARDEN LAYOUT OF STRATFORD HALL

Adapted in part from
Historic Gardens of Virginia

NOTE—*This garden layout is only theoretical and probably was created long after the original garden layout had been practically obliterated.*

Map showing the location of Stratford on the Potomac in relation to Washington, D. C

W9-DAN-781